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THE GERMAN EMPEROR AND PEACE.

Shortly after his visit to Berlin, in connection with the sitting of the International Labor Conference held there, Mr. Darby, the Secretary of the London Peace Society, addressed the following poem to the Emperor. Its receipt was afterwards courteously acknowledged in the following note:

"GERMAN EMBASSY, LONDON, Aug. 24, 1889.

"The German Ambassador presents his compliments to Mr. Evans Darby, and begs to inform him that his Majesty the German Emperor has been pleased to accept the poem offered to him.

"The German Ambassador is also instructed, and has great pleasure, to express to Mr. Evans Darby his Imperial Majesty's thanks for this kind attention."

O young in years, but bold of heart,
The offspring of a Titan race;
Wouldst thou but choose the nobler part,
Thy way is clear to higher place
Than ever Hohenzollern trod,
By might of men and grace of God.

The time is ripe for noble deeds;
Occasion tells thee what to do;
List to thy people's clamorous needs;
Wait not for social overthrow;
The coming change anticipate,
And hold the helm and save the State.

A good beginning asks for more;
Thy chosen course affords no rest;
But on to what is still before,
And ever on, at high behest
Of progress, and by fate's decree,
Thy path of power, thy bourne must be.

Thy fathers, with imperious will,
Built up the City, State and Throne;
Their glory lingers round them still;
Their genius claims them for its own;
But more than City, Throne or State,
The manhood given to make them great.

Be wise; why emulate the dead,
Or seek their victories to share?
Achieve thine own; with steadier tread
Ascend ambition's loftier stair;
Along the paths by them attained
No laurels linger to be gained

But richer trophies wait for thee—
The glory that attends the good;
Thy star shall other ages see
Haloed with light, and not with blood,
Wouldst thou but dare the open way,
That leads through love to surest sway.

Love's greatness seeketh not her own,
Gives freely, asking not again;
And moral grandeur most is shown
In making, not in maiming, men;
The Sovereign finds his right divine,
When law and loyalty combine.

Love's sceptre wield, and quick response
Shall greet thy kinglier attempt,
And respite that will come but once;
Th' eternal laws leave none exempt;
'Tis righteousness builds up the Throne;
A Monarch's might is love alone.

"Peace hath her victories." How true!
Yet not this truce, this bloodless strife,
This armed Peace, whose gains are few,
Whose triumphs stagnate human life.
What boots a people's strenuous toil,
If warlike waste consume their soil?

Be thine to end this mailed truce,
This reign of arms and gilded force;
Put manhood to its proper use,
And sweep away Conscription's curse;
Europe will welcome with acclaim,
Her inmost heart enshrine thy name.

SERVICE PENSIONS.

It is regretted that the Massachusetts Department of the Grand Army of the Republic, at its meeting on Feb. 12, took such decided and formal action in favor of service pensions. There is a very wide-spread feeling, among those who wish to honor the veterans of the war for the Union and to act toward them with the greatest liberality, that the time has not yet come when pensions can properly be given for the simple fact of service, and that the action of the Grand Army, in demanding more than the very generous recognition which the laws now give to all soldiers suffering from even technical disability, is unpatriotic. One-third of the entire income of the government, from all sources, will be paid out during the coming year in pensions to soldiers entitled to receive aid under existing law. We might go farther than this if it were necessary, even to the half of our national resources; but judicious men do not think it necessary.—*Commonwealth.*

LABOR WASTED.

It is sad, indeed, to think how the labor of man is wasted, and worse than wasted. Take, for instance, the national expenditure of England. It amounts in round numbers to \$500,000,000. Of this gigantic sum, over \$150,000,000 is spent in preparation for war, \$130,000,000 is absorbed by debt mostly incurred in war, and only \$100,000,000 is spent in the civil government of the country. Wars, therefore — past, present, and future — absorb three-quarters of the taxation of the country. But even this is not all. Of the Civil Service expenditure again, \$35,000,000 is absorbed by law, police, etc., so that of the \$400,000,000 nearly \$350,000,000 are due to contentions of one kind and another.—*Sir John Lubbock.*

WHAT SHALL IT PROFIT?

WILLIAM DEAN HOWELLS.

If I lay waste and wither up with doubt
The blessed fields of heaven where once my faith
Possessed itself serenely safe from death;
If I deny the things past finding out;
Or if I orphan my own soul of One
That seemed a Father, and make void the place
Within me where He dwelt in power and grace,
What do I gain, that am myself undone?

—*Harper's Magazine.*

The Princess of Wales contributed to the fund for the relief of the suffering poor of Ireland. She and her daughters sent contributions of clothing and solicited subscriptions.